

to Rs. 1,739. The Nándgaon range heads the list with 2,038 acres planted up. 10 acres were added to the Páthardi plantation in the Násik range.

93. In the Ahmednagar division 9,076 acres were treated in the usual manner, and the plantations at Dongargan and Hanmantgaon were kept up. The results on the whole were satisfactory. Sind Bábool seed planted during the year germinated freely. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,575.

94. In the divisions of Poona, Sátára and Sholápur the usual systems were followed in sowing seeds, &c., and the results are, on the whole, satisfactory. Form No. 56 gives the details of all the works undertaken.

(3).—*Early Thinnings.*

95. No such operations were undertaken during the year.

(4).—*Other Operations for the improvement of Growing Stock.*

96. In the East Khándesh division the creeper known as the Pirul-veil belonging to the natural order Combretaceæ which thrives in black soil and climbing up trees spreads all over them in the Bábool forests, doing much damage, and even killing the trees, was cut down systematically, in Bhusával and Edlábád ranges. Salai (*Boswellia*) trees, where they are densely growing so as to suppress other and more valuable kinds, are also being cut out.

97. In the West Khándesh division considerable creeper cutting has taken place.

98. In the Násik division prickly-pear was eradicated from forest reserves of Niphád, Chandvad, Bágán and Kalvan ranges, and 297 acres were thus cleared of this noxious growth.

99. In the Ahmednagar division 264 acres of forest area were cleared of prickly-pear, and the Forest guards removed and destroyed 2,143 cart-loads of this weed, with their own hands.

100. In the Poona division the cutting of creepers was carried on by Forest guards in the heavier forests on the Gháts, free of cost, while the work of eradicating prickly-pear from Bábool reserves was carried on by hired labour and 46 acres were cleared.

101. Considerable cutting of prickly-pear and of creepers was undertaken in the Sátára division to improve the growing stock, and an expenditure of Rs. 1,637 was incurred on these operations.

102. In the Sholápur division 56,100 square feet were cleared of prickly-pear by paid labour, and in addition to this 3,900 cart-loads were destroyed by Beat guards.

(5).—*Experiments.*

103. The following kinds of seeds were obtained in small quantities from the Andaman Islands and from other parts and were distributed among the several divisions for experimental sowing :—

Lagerstroëmia parviflora,
Pterocarpus indicus,
Albezzia lebbek,
Pinus khasia,
Swietenia maiophylla,
Cupressus torulosa.
Sind Bábool;
Bambusa arundinacea.

but some of the seeds were not received up to the end of May 1895, and consequently had not germinated at the end of the year. The Sind Bábool seed has germinated freely. Pinus khasia planted in the Donza forests of the Poona division has grown to a height of 3 feet. Lagerstroëmia has only germinated in Násik, 2,000 seedlings of Bambusa arundinacea have been reared and transplanted into the Teak coupes in the Poona division. Experiment in coffee planting is being carried on at Lingmala in the Sátára division, and the plants are healthy.